

AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT

Applicant submits that the following amendments to the abstract are supported throughout the specification and that no new matter has been added.

Please amend the abstract by replacing it with the following:

Methods, systems and securities for assuring a company an opportunity to sell stock (e.g., common stock) after a specified time are disclosed. In one embodiment, a sale, by a company to an other entity, of a security may be issued, consisting of: (i) a post-paid forward contract which obligates the other entity to purchase a fixed number of shares stock of the company; and (ii) debt. In one embodiment, a purchase, by the company from the other entity, of a pre-paid forward contract may be issued, which obligates the other entity to deliver to the company a variable number of shares of stock in the company. The number of shares underlying the pre-paid forward contract may be calculated based on a formula that is a function of a then-current stock price and a remaining maturity associated with the pre-paid forward contract.